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## REPORTS FROM VICKSBURG.

[Despatches to the "Associated Press."]

CHICAGO, May 27.—A special dispatch from Cairo to the Journal says that paroled prisoners who left Sherman's Landing on the 23d say that a bearer of dispatches from General Pemberton to General Johnson had been captured, which says that the number of Confederates in Vicksburg was between 25,000 and 30,000.

On Thursday the Confederate batteries on the hill north of the town were taken and burned; on the evening of the same day, the water batteries below Vicksburg were taken by Admiral Porter's mortar boats.

On Friday morning Gen. Pemberton sent a flag of truce to General Grant, offering to surrender Vicksburg if Grant would allow the Confederates to lay down their arms and march out, but the offer was refused.

On Friday, after the refusal to accept Gen. Pemberton's proposition, Gen. Grant moved on his works, and the Confederates were driven to the inner fortifications.

[The story of the paroled prisoners is not credited. It brings the operations of the siege down to Friday last, and later accounts have been received and published which say nothing about the offer to surrender or the carrying by storm if all but the river fortifications.—The story, also, that on Sunday last, a courier dashed up with a dispatch from General Breckinridge to Gen. Wheeler, at McMinnville, acknowledging that Vicksburg had fallen, but that General Pemberton had escaped with almost all his army, but had left his artillery, is said not to be true.]

Gen. Logan guards Black River bridge, and Gen. Grant feels certain he will be able to take care of Johnston. The latter has only about ten thousand men, exclusive of what he may have by reinforcements.

General Grant's army is larger than is generally supposed and quite sufficient for the work in hand. It stretches completely around the doomed city, each wing resting on the river.

Vicksburg is full of women and children, not only the original inhabitants, but many who came in from the surrounding country for safety.

A special dispatch to the Chicago Times, dated three miles east of Vicksburg, on the 20th, says: The Federal wounded at the battle of Champion Hill number over 1,700. The Confederate loss is acknowledged at not over half that. The Federals had about 20,000 troops engaged, and the Confederates about 10,000, according to the accounts of their wounded. The Federals took 3,000 prisoners, and about 3,000 at the battle of the bridge.

General Sherman crossed the Black river on pontoons, and McPherson and McClernand's forces built three bridges on Sunday night, (17th,) and crossed their commands by Monday noon. By 4 o'clock the advance of Gen. Sherman's corps, under General Steele, reached the Confederate works back of the city and took a position on the right, on the bluffs above, and commenced the bombardment.

Gen. McPherson planted his command in front or in the centre. Gen. McClernand took the extreme left, reaching almost to the river below the city.

All possible means of escape is cut off, and every man, woman and child must fall into the hands of the Federals.

All the forenoon yesterday the different brigades were taking a position and forming lines of battles, etc.

At 2 o'clock the battle began. There had been skirmishing all the forenoon. General Steele drove the Confederates from several forts and took one complete line of fortifications, protected in front by rifle pits. His extreme right rested on the river bank under the bluff at sundown. His division fought gallantly all day though hungry and dirty, foot-sore and sleepy.

General Sherman's left and General McPherson's right are in supporting distance.—Both have advanced their lines of skirmishers to within fifty yards of the breastworks, and their artillery to within five hundred yards, and are in position at these distances this morning.

Gen. McClernand is not progressing so fast, but is doing well.

The Federals lost about 1,500 killed and wounded yesterday. This morning they are firing upon the Confederate works from all points.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—The latest official intelligence from Vicksburg is to four o'clock on Sunday morning, when all was represented as going on well.

The flag of truce steamer State of Maine, from City Point, has arrived at Fortress Monroe with sixty-seven exchanged Union officers, among them Captain Brown and Lieutenant Carstair, of the gunboat Indianola. She also brought back fourteen Confederate officers, the Confederates having refused to give the Federal officers in exchange. They were sent to Fort Norfolk. The Confederates hold a Lieutenant as a hostage for one executed by Gen. Burnside.

Persons arriving from the Rappahannock uniformly report that nothing of importance is transpiring in the army. Many of the staff and line officers have gone North, and there is no indication of any immediate movement.—Many of the camps have been changed to more healthy localities. The wounded are well cared for.

In the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia yesterday, a negro boy was arraigned and convicted on a case of petit larceny, when Chief Justice Cartter, in sentencing the prisoner to one hour's confinement in jail, said: "If ever there was a time in the history of the race when the colored people were put upon their good behaviour it is this. No community will tolerate their idleness and crime among it. Now you go and set your race an example by keeping your hands off other people's property, and by finding some legitimate employment."

A correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch "writing from Port Royal Va., under date of the 21st, states that the Federals have withdrawn their pickets from Port Conway, just opposite Port Royal; but scouting parties appeared there almost daily. A courier has just arrived, bringing information that five gunboats had come up to Layton's Ferry, in Westmoreland, about fifteen miles below Port Royal. He also stated that about one thousand Federal cavalry were encamped in Westmoreland, just opposite Layton's."

FEDERAL RAID into Gloucester and Mathews counties, Va. The army correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes:—

"The expedition, which was conducted by both land and water, was commanded by Col. Kilpatrick. It started from the head-quarters of Gen. Keyes on Wednesday, and returned yesterday. In the interim the counties of Matthews and Gloucester were well scoured. All the warehouses containing grain were sacked, the mills burned, and everything that could aid the Confederates was destroyed or captured. Three hundred horses, two hundred and fifty head of cattle, two hundred sheep and a hundred mules, together with a large number of contrabands, were brought back by the raiders.

The farmers were all taken by surprise.—They had not expected a demonstration of the kind. Not only were they made to surrender everything that could be of the least use, but they were compelled to be silent spectators of the destruction of their agricultural implements.

The farmers will no longer be able to till their grounds to raise crops for the Confederates, when their implements are rendered useless. Coupled with this, they have been deprived of their help-meets, the slaves, that have been taken from them. The crops that are now in the ground will go unharvested, and be of no value."

STRIKE.—The N. Y. Journal of Commerce records at length the history of a strike in that office, with detail of the manner in which, for some time, two of the editors, a friend, and the night assistant foremen gout out the paper. The appearance of the office during the night would make a picture most amusing to printers. Every editor and attache of the paper found some work to which to turn his hand, either in carrying type, condensing matter, lifting forms, or in some other useful department of labor. The old printers left, new ones were supplied in a few days, and all now goes on as well as ever. The only real question was submission to the Trades Union, etc.—"There are more than two thousand printers in this city, of whom only about six hundred belong to the Union." The editors express deep regret for the loss of all their old Printers some of whom had grown up in the office, but say they cannot receive them, though some of them have earnestly applied for places.

An interesting suit for \$10,000 damages is up before the N. Y. Superior Court. The plaintiff is a Mrs. Eliza B. Curvier, the defendant Chas. Pierson, a partner in the firm of Unsdaile, Pierson & Lake, dry goods dealers, on Broadway. It appears the plaintiff entered the store of the firm and acted very suspiciously. Mr. Pierson watched her narrowly, and, missing a piece of silk, accused her of stealing it. This she indignantly denied. A policeman was called and the supposed thief taken to the station house and there searched, but the property was not found upon her. She was taken to the Tombs and at once discharged by the magistrate.—Mrs. Curvier now brings this suit to recover damages.

The emigration of Irish to the United States is now so extensive that instead of four steamers leaving Cork each fortnight, there will be seven in the same space of time for some months.